Problem Solving Skills

Recognizes Problems

No Evidence	Recognizes and avoids something that could be harmful	Identifies and avoids common dangers	Articulates and follows safety rules	Recognizes safety rule violations	Anticipates potential dangers

Defines a Problem

No Evidence	Acknowledges a problem that has been made apparent	Recognizes when there is a simple problem in a familiar setting	Shares perception of a problem situation or an anticipated problem	Provides an accurate description of a problem situation or an anticipated problem	Provides a detailed description of a complex problem, anticipated problem and the related circumstances

Analyzes Cause and Effect

No Evidence	Indicates a simple cause and effect relationship, recognizes consequences	Identifies the causes of a problem	Sequences events that caused a problem	Identifies relevant information and patterns related to a problem	Analyzes the impact of the variables that caused a problem

Uses Information to Solve Problems

No Evidence	Uses provided information to help solve a simple problem	Uses provided information to help solve a simple problem and recognizes the need for further information	Recognizes the need to gather more information, accepts assistance and uses the information	Recognizes the need to gather more information and requests assistance in gathering the information	Recognizes the need for more information and independently uses that information to arrive at a clearer understanding of the problem

Analyzes Potential Strategies to Problems

No Evidence	Requests help to solve a simple problem as needed	Seeks input in analyzing a problem situation	Participates in a group problem-solving process	Applies a strategy for analyzing the potential consequences of a problem situation	Uses diverse sources to predict the consequences of a complex set of problems

Considers Solutions to Problems

No Evidence	Recognizes a solution to a problem	Compares potential solutions to a problem	Generates alternative solutions to a problem	Evaluates the benefits and risks of potential solutions	Chooses the approach, materials, and strategies to solve a problem

Acts to Solve Problems

No Evidence	Follows a plan to solve a problem	Selects an appropriate response to a problem	Designs and implements a strategy to solve a common problem	Offers and selects from a number of reasonable solutions for any given problem	Considers the goal, context, and available resources when solving a problem

Evaluates Solutions to Problems

No Evidence	Identifies a successful resolution	Decides if a solution is acceptable in the context of the circumstances	Identifies strengths and weaknesses in the problem-solving process	Identifies what was learned or what could have been improved upon	Evaluates problem-solving efforts and revises approaches